


IPW.


 MAY 13 2004
 IPO
 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

~~In re Application of:~~

Group No. 2672

Filed: November 18, 2003

May 12, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

- (1) U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0006218
- (2) U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0080918
- (3) U.S. Patent No. 5,779,634
- (4) JP 05-056953

A copy of Document (4) is enclosed. Pursuant to 1276 OG 55, copies of the remaining documents are not enclosed.

Document (4) is discussed in the specification and might be deemed pertinent for the reasons given there. In addition, Document (3) is believed to be an English language counterpart of Document (4).

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 30,622

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

